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SEP 9 1948

Assistant Director, Office of Collection
and Dissemination
Assistant Director, Office of Operations

Proposed Publication of Accession Lists by FDB

1. Pursuant to memorandum from the Executive Director to the Special Assistant to the Secretary of State for Research and Intelligence, dated 22 June, subject: "Cataloging Russian Publications of the Library of Congress", FDB is currently screening the Library of Congress backlog of Russian-language acquisitions in order to prepare a selected listing of items of intelligence interest.

2. In consideration of (a) the nature of this operation, (b) the increasing number of Russian books and monographs now being received by FDB, and (c) the existence of books in other repositories similar to those in the Library of Congress, it has been deemed appropriate that a common medium of dissemination be sought to provide the CIA and IAC with this information.

3. FDB, therefore, proposes that an Accession List publication for foreign language books of intelligence interest be published in mimeographed form, with conventional CIA, FDB cover, flyleaf, explanatory note, table of contents, and subject matter (See Encl 1).

a. Each publication would be numbered and bear the date of publication, type of accession list, on the cover and flyleaf.

b. Classification would be "Confidential" or "Restricted" as required by subject matter.

c. The Accession Lists would be published under two main heads—Scientific and General.

d. The custodial agency for items listed would be indicated, and an explanatory note would direct how material may be requisitioned. No invitation for requests for translations would be offered.

e. Scientific Accession Lists would include all scientific and technical books and monographs of intelligence value, and such books and monographs would be listed under appropriate general categories which would be indexed in the table of contents.

f. General Accession Lists would include all books and monographs of intelligence value other than scientific and technical. General books and monographs would be listed under geographical-area categories, and such geographical areas covered in a particular accession list would be indexed in the table of contents.

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3. A publication would comprise about 200 items. Where or when possible, 200 "general" books and monographs from one geographical area would be published as one accession list.

4. This plan for publication was arrived at by FDB after consideration of the use of such material as indicated by recent survey and experience and the potential use of the material in hand; also after consideration of styles of presentation and mediums of reproduction. Factors which influenced the decision are:

a. Satisfactory use of previously published Accession Lists of Japanese documents.

b. Need for immediate dissemination of the information and the use in current projects of any material of value.

c. Reference files for continuous use under authorized request will be available at FDB.

d. Ease and economy of reproduction as compared to other mediums considered.

5. It is requested that the IAC agencies be surveyed in order to determine the value of the proposed publication and the feasibility of the format suggested herein.

GEORGE G. CAREY

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cc: FDB

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State comment - see
copy in [illegible]*

*For FDB
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